

Why Barbed Wire?

Barbed Wire. It sounds like an unusual topic for a museum of western history. However, many people are unaware of the contribution of this simple invention that changed the direction of history and left an impact that resonates today.

Barbed wire made three major contributions. It redefined the landscape. The once open prairie was divided as settlers built fences around their property. The legal dispute that erupted between its inventors made its way to the United States Supreme Court setting a precedent in patent law. Barbed wire made men wealthy and that wealth built public buildings, and major universities. Washburn University in Topeka was established with help from a contribution by Icabod Washburn, a major player in the barbed wire industry. Their mascot, the "Icabod," is named in honor of Mr. Washburn.

The Kansas Barbed Wire Museum presents interesting ways to learn about this important contribution to America's history. Dioramas of early barbed wire use, a theatre featuring educational films, the Barbed Wire Hall of Fame, the museum archives room, and a research library all help to conjure up images of settling the Midwest, range wars between homesteaders and cattlemen, the Homestead Act and the transformation of the open prairie into America's bread basket.



Museums Open Daily

May - September

Monday - Saturday 10:00 - 4:30

Sunday 1:00 - 4:30

Kansas Barbed Wire Collectors Association, Inc.
120 W. 1st Street / P.O. Box 578
La Crosse, Kansas 67548-0578
Phone 785.222.9900

3-2017

Events for the Family

Opening Ceremony: Opening ceremonies will take place in Grass Park on Thursday at 5:30 pm. Following the flag ceremony, visitors will have the opportunity to check out the progress on projects going on at the museum complex.

Kid's "MY Masterpiece" Paint Party:

On Saturday at 10:00 am, youth will have an opportunity to create their own art project sponsored by "MY Masterpiece" Paint Parties of Hays. All supplies will be provided. Afterwards, youth will have the opportunity to display their masterpieces in the museum for a couple of weeks.



Old-Fashioned Community Church Service & Picnic:

On Sunday, May 7th at 11:00am, join us for an outdoor church service in Grass Park at the north shelter house. Following the service, the festivities will conclude with a community picnic. All food will be provided. This non-denominational service and picnic is sponsored by the La Crosse United Methodist Church. ALL ARE WELCOME.



Exhibitor & Vendor Information:

Exhibitors are encouraged to register in advance as tables are limited. Register online at our website or by calling the numbers below. Exhibitors may set up on Thursday from 2:00-3:30pm or Friday morning at 7:00am. Displays must be removed following the auction on Saturday.

Table Rentals (covers not provided)*:

First Table: \$15.00 - 2nd or more \$10.00 ea.

Display space (subject to availability)

No charge to registered participants

*A \$10.00 registration fee applies to non-members of the Kansas Barbed Wire Collectors Assn., Inc.

For reservations call:

Call our Reservations Hotline: 785-222-2808

Or register online at: www.rushcounty.org/wireshow



51st Annual

Barbed Wire Festival

"Looking to the next 50 years"

May 4-7, 2017

La Crosse City Auditorium
La Crosse, Kansas



Antiques

Collectibles

Barbed Wire Items

Handmade Crafts

Vendor Fair

"It's not just barbed wire, there's something for everyone!"



www.rushcounty.org/wireshow





Friday, May 5 - 6:30 pm
Kansas Barbed Wire Museum Galleries

Enjoy our Pasta & More Buffet starting at 6:30 pm. At 7:00, play your favorite casino games including Blackjack, Roulette, and more. Build your "Barbed Bucks" and use them at the live auction featuring a variety of valuable items.

Pasta & More Buffet - \$10.00
(includes free "Barbed Bucks")
Auction starts about 8:45pm



Join us for our spectacular Candlelight Banquet, an evening fit for royalty. Enjoy a gourmet meal by candlelight featuring the finest cuts of beef, fabulous trimmings, salad, and dessert. To kick off the evening, you will enjoy special entertainment with live music. Following the banquet will be a short program, announcement of the splicing winners, Wireshow Awards Ceremony, and more. Proceeds will benefit Kansas Barbed Wire Museum Educational Fund.

Advance reservations required
\$20.00 per person
A limited number of tickets are available



Thursday, May 4, 2017

- 10:00am - 4:30pm - Museum Complex Open
- 2:00pm - 3:30pm - Exhibitor Early Set-up
City Auditorium
- 5:30pm - Opening Ceremonies
Grass Park Museum Complex
- 7:30pm - Antique Barbed Wire Society Meeting*
- 8:30pm - Kansas BWCA Annual Meeting*
KBWM Hagemeyer Conference Room

Friday, May 5, 2017

- 7:00 - Exhibitor Set-up
City Auditorium
- 7:30 - Benefit Breakfast
Proceeds to Relay for Life
- 8:00am - 5:00pm - Displays and Trade sessions
City Auditorium
- 8:00am - 5:00pm - Vendor Fair
City Auditorium
- all day - Exhibition: "Tribute to our Veterans"
City Auditorium
- 11:00 - 1:00 - Lunch Concessions
City Auditorium
- 2:00pm - Judging of Displays
Pick up judging forms at registration desk by 1:00
- 5:00pm - Auditorium closes
- 6:30 pm - Casino Night Fundraiser Buffet
Kansas Barbed Wire Museum

For more information
or to make reservations:
www.rushcounty.org/wireshow

Saturday, May 6, 2017

- all day - Community Garage Sales
Maps available at the registration desk
See the *Rush County News* for advertisements
- 7:30 - Benefit Breakfast
Proceeds to Relay for Life
- 8:00am - Exhibits open
City Auditorium
- 8:00am - 4:00 pm - Vendor Fair
City Auditorium
- 10:00 am - 4:00 pm - Display & Trade Session
City Auditorium
- 10:00 am - Kid's "MY Masterpiece" Art Project
City Auditorium
Sponsored by: MY Masterpiece Paint Party of Hays
- all day - Exhibition: "Tribute to our Veterans"
City Auditorium
- 12:00 - 2:00 - World Champion Splicing contest
Competition is open to anyone
Prizes awarded
Winners will be announced at the banquet
- 11:00 - 1:00 - Lunch Concessions
City Auditorium
- 3:00 p.m. - Public Auction
Consign items at the registration desk
- 4:00 p.m. - Auditorium closes
Display tear down
- 6:30 p.m. - Candlelight Banquet
La Crosse City Auditorium (reservations required)
Award Ceremony & Closing Ceremony

Sunday, May 7, 2017

- 11:00am - Community Church Service
Grass Park North Shelter
- 12:00pm - Community Picnic
Grass Park North Shelter
Sponsored by La Crosse United Methodist Church